



# NLG NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Numismatic Literary Guild Inc.

Volume 32, No. 2

Spring 2001

## SEND THOSE ENTRIES!

### 2001 WRITERS' COMPETITION DEADLINE JUNE 23

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 23, 2001  
AND RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 27, 2001.

**NOTE: Some categories have new numbers this year. Please check the rules and use the correct number on each entry to avoid disqualification.**



#### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK... BY ED REITER

If spring comes, can the NLG Writers' Competition be far behind?

This spring hasn't been one to write home about — at least not in northern New Jersey, where I live and work. But NLG members have done plenty of writing over the last 12 months, and I'm looking forward to another lively contest when entries begin arriving in mid-June.

The rules for the 2001 competition are published in this issue of the *NLG Newsletter*, and you'll notice a number of significant changes.

First and foremost, we've added several new categories for computer Web sites. This reflects the growing importance of the Internet as a means of disseminating news, views and knowledge about numismatics. The Computer Age is upon us, and the

Guild believes this expanded recognition is not only justified but mandated by the new realities.

Another change involves the judging of club newsletters. In recent years, we have honored national club publications (*The Numismatist* and *The Commemorative Trail*, for example) separately from local, state and regional journals. This year, we have reverted to just one category for all such publications, regardless of size or scope.

Some may question the fairness of pitting slick, well-financed national journals against much smaller local publications, but experience has shown that the small-journal competition was drawing relatively few entries — and the number was decreasing, rather than growing. We'll carefully consider any comments on this change and take another look

at things after this year's contest.

You'll find another change in the categories involving radio, audio, television and video presentations about numismatics. In the past, entrants were allowed to submit tapes in which they were interview subjects — guest appearances on radio or TV programs, for example. Interview entries will not be accepted this year.

Otherwise, the rules remain much the same. As in the past, each entry must be submitted in triplicate (with certain exceptions noted in the rules), and each copy must be accompanied by a cover sheet listing the class and category number, the entrant's name and address, the name of the publication where the entry appeared, the publication date, the title of heading and the name of the author (if different from the entrant).

*Cont. on page 2*





## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

*Cont. from page 1*

There's a simple reason for requiring three copies of each entry: In most categories, entries are reviewed by three different judges — and given the time constraints and logistics involved, a separate copy is needed for each judge.

Under the rules, entries lacking a proper cover sheet can be disqualified — and though we are reluctant to enforce this rule, and have tried to avoid doing so, occasional entries do suffer this fate. Please don't let this happen to you: Follow the rules to the letter.

As in the past, Scott Travers is coordinating this year's competition. Year after year, Scott carries out these duties fairly, conscientiously and efficiently, and always has the award plaques ready for presentation at the Bash, even under the tightest deadline pressure.

If you misplace your copy of the rules, you can find them by accessing the Guild's Web site — [www.numismaticliteraryguild.org](http://www.numismaticliteraryguild.org) — which is being maintained and updated regularly by our Web master, Howard M. Berlin. The Guild has benefited enormously from Howard's skillful steward-

ship of the site, and increasing numbers of members are taking frequent advantage of this new technological tool.

Howard invites members to send him any items they would like to see posted at the Web site. These might include information about newly published books or articles they have written, including for the general press; news about their activities or awards; reports of births, marriages or deaths involving Guild members; and any other matters of interest. Such items can be sent to Howard via e-mail at [webmaster@numismaticliteraryguild.org](mailto:webmaster@numismaticliteraryguild.org).

Similar material also would be of interest to David T. Alexander, editor of the *Newsletter*. Items can be sent to him at P.O. Box 780, Mahopac, NY 10541.

This year's symposium and Bash will take place Thursday, Aug. 9, at the ANA convention in Atlanta. Complete details will be announced as the date draws closer. Our hard-working treasurer, Kay Lenker, is working out the accommodations with the ANA.

Last but far from least, three members of our Board of Directors are completing their service this year, and three replacements are needed. You'll find details on this in an article elsewhere in this issue.

Right now, before you do anything else, get your entries ready for this year's Writers' Competition and put them in the mail. You may hear your name being called as one of the winners in Atlanta!

# # #



## NLG NEWSLETTER

Since 1968, the official  
publication of the  
Numismatic  
Literary Guild, Inc.

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# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK THE CLEMY ••• REMEMBERING THE BASICS

By David T. Alexander  
Clemly Winner 1987

1999 will be remembered in NLG annals as the first time a winner of the Guild's highest honor, the Clemly, was not on hand to choose his successor.

The untimely death of the late, lamented Burnett Anderson caused the first such transition in NLG history, and the Board was obliged to find an alternative method of selecting the next winner. The Board constituted all living Clemly laureates as an electoral college to select the 1999 recipient.

In the ensuing balloting, many names were submitted by the 20 past Clemly winners. Most were eminently qualified nominees, with a few suggestions that can only be called startling. It is possible that the passage of time has blurred recollection of the qualifications required of a potential Clemly awardee, and a review of these qualifications is perhaps in order.

The Clemly is the highest recognition of NLG. Since it was first presented to its namesake, the late Clement F. Bailey, the award has matured in the esteem of NLG members and the larger numismatic community.

Our *NLG 25 Year History* records that the Clemly was born as a once-only spoof to be presented to Clem Bailey by his many friends, largely for his work

in helping launch the Guild in 1968. Its first insignia was a massive cast iron-framed Noiseless typewriter, spray-painted bright gold and mounted on a heavy wooden base.

This creation was then presented to a surprised Clem Bailey, whose radiant joy at receiving such recognition immediately transformed the Clemly from a spoof into a permanent feature of future NLG meetings at American Numismatic Association conventions.

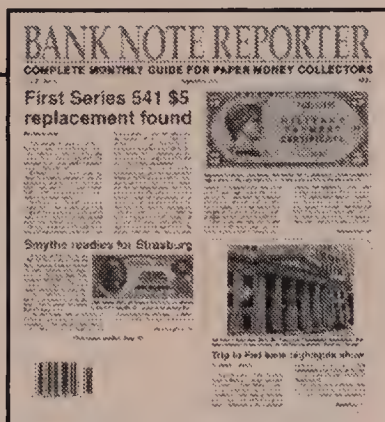
After the first few awards, the Clemly took the form of an attractive Lucite embedment and ultimately a handsome engraved plaque, far more portable than the 40-pounds-plus typewriter now residing in the ANA Museum in Colorado Springs.

*Cont. on page 10*

## When collectors want numismatic information they turn to the pros at...



World Coin News



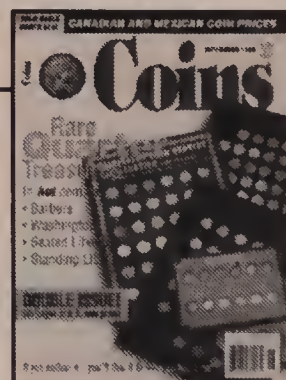
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## HELEN CARMODY-LEBO: A REMEMBRANCE

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Helen Carmody-Lebo's sudden and tragic death on Jan. 3, in a fire at her apartment in Huntington Beach, Calif., was a shock and severe loss for the entire hobby, including the NLG. Helen had been among the most active and indispensable members of the Guild, serving as a judge in our annual Writers' Competition, a participant in our Bashes and a champion of our causes. On Feb. 22, during a special memorial service at the Long Beach Expo, Scott A. Travers — an NLG stalwart and close colleague of Helen's — delivered a poignant tribute. It beautifully captures the Guild's feelings, too, so we're printing it here as our way of saying "Goodbye" and "Thank you" to this truly remarkable lady.)

A familiar face is missing as we pass the registration desk, walk through the bourse and pause to greet friends at the Long Beach show this year. Helen Carmody-Lebo is gone — tragically and many years too soon.

Nearly two months have elapsed since Helen died so shockingly in a fire at her Huntington Beach apartment. But many of us, I'm sure, still find ourselves looking for her smiling face and awaiting her warm greeting as we walk around the show — still not quite convinced that she's really gone for good.

Patti Finner, a close friend whom Helen held in the very highest esteem, told me that people are still coming to the information booth at Long Beach asking for Helen, how for a brief instant Patti has the instinct to turn around and look for Helen, and inevitably how painful it is for Patti to recount Helen's passing.

Helen was one of those people who made a coin show special, who made our HOBBY special, who enriched our lives with her smile, her warmth, her friendliness and her obvious zest for life.

She came to the hobby later than some, joining the ANA in 1983 at the age of 44, but she more than made up for lost time. Working alongside her first husband, Don Carmody, she soon learned the ropes on the business end of coins. In the process, she acquired an in-depth knowledge of coins, particularly U.S. commemorative coins, for which she developed a real and abiding affection.

But more than anything else, Helen was a people person — and what she collected most of all weren't coins, but friends. Once you met Helen, even for the briefest chat, you were her friend — and she was yours. Everywhere she went in her travels to coin shows with Don, she made new

friends and joined new coin clubs. At the time of her death, she held membership in more than 20 national, regional and state numismatic organizations, as well as local clubs — especially in California, where she lived for many years.

In 1993, 10 years after joining the ANA as Life Member 3170, Helen decided to run for the Board of Governors. She finished first in the voting, outpolling incumbents who had served on the Board for many years. As always, she ran for the Board not as a hobby politician looking for self-aggrandizement and glory, but rather as a friend who wanted to serve the interests of fellow-hobbyists. Don Carmody died in 1994, but her work on the ANA Board helped sustain Helen through that tragedy.

She ran for the Board again in 1995 and 1997, winning overwhelmingly both times. Then, in 1999, she ran unopposed for vice president. I had the pleasure of seeing her succeed me in that office — an office she convinced me (against my better judgment) to seek. I served on the Board with Helen for two terms — a total of four years — and at a time of turbulence and discord, she was an oasis of calm, compassion and common sense. She resisted and opposed the old-boy network that sometimes put personal interests above the best interests of the membership.

Helen had a kind of lifeline intercom to her close personal friends Mary and Jerry Yahalom. Mary and Jerry, amazing people persons and extraordinary club leaders in their own right, had a sixth sense of when to call Helen — even if Helen hadn't called for



days. In fact, Mary and Jerry made it easier for others to call Helen by installing an answering machine in her apartment. The circle of admiration and friendship between Helen and the Yahaloms was heart-warming. The Yahaloms stood by Helen in good times and in bad — for battles won and for battles lost. Yes, Helen didn't win every battle, but she fought the good fight with grace, good will, integrity and the interests of the membership at heart.

One difficult battle for Helen was her health. She was a smoker and had an almost unbearably painful orthopedic condition for which she attempted — in most cases unsuccessfully — to control the pain. Helen's health declined in recent years and last August, halfway through her two-year term as vice president, she chose to step down from the ANA

Board rather than serve at less than full strength. Her health had been improving, though, in the months that followed, thanks, in no small measure, to the care and support she received from her loving husband — the centerpiece of her adoration, Jerry Lebo, her so very devoted second husband. Some of us hoped and believed that she would soon be well enough to return to the coin-show circuit and perhaps the ANA Board.

The fire that raged through Helen's apartment on January 3rd ended such hopes and speculation. Helen Carmody-Lebo is indeed gone, at the much-too-young age of 62. But the friendships she made, and the wonderful memories she gave us, still live on.

Helen once left a message on my answering machine telling me

that her mother always told her that a person with dimples is blessed by angels. Helen went on to say that she called to tell me that because she was looking at my smiling picture and could see my dimples — she just had to tell me that I was blessed by angels. I will never forget Helen or her wonderfully warm and personal observations.

No one who met Helen could ever forget her. Her smile brightened every room she entered; her spirit enriched the hobby; and her decency, dedication and devotion to duty uplifted the ANA in difficult times.

Her collection of friends was among the most complete and extensive ever formed. And those of us who knew her are proud to be included in that collection. Today, blessed by angels forever is Helen Carmody-Lebo.

# If you write... write to Coin World!

We're always interested in good features, on U.S. coins and other numismatic collectibles.

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Summarize your feature ideas, keep in mind our features are 1,000-1,500 words. Let us know if you have photos or art available and send your proposal off to:

Beth Deisher, Editor: P.O. Box 150  
Sidney, OH 45365-0150. FAX: 937-498-0812.  
E-mail: [bdeisher@coinworld.com](mailto:bdeisher@coinworld.com)

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# 2001 NLG WRITERS' COMPETITION RULES



*Welcome to this year's  
NLG competition!*

Please read these rules carefully if  
you wish to participate in the contest.

1. All NLG members are eligible to participate if their dues have been paid.
2. All entries must have been published between May 1, 2000 and April 30, 2001.
3. Entries must be postmarked not later than June 23, 2001 and received not later than June 27, 2001.
4. All entries must be the work of entrant or must have been produced under entrant's editorial direction.
5. The judges reserve the right to change the category in which an entry may compete, if they believe such change is necessary to assure equity of all participants.
6. Three (3) copies of each entry must be submitted in all categories except portfolio and computer. In these two categories, one copy will suffice. Quality photocopies of newspaper and magazine articles are acceptable.
7. No entries will be returned under any circumstance.
8. No entrant may submit more than one (1) entry in any single category. (The same entry may

also be included in the portfolio competition, however.)

9. In categories with only one entry, judges may decide that no award will be given, or may substitute Special NLG Recognition for the regular NLG Award.
10. All judges' decisions are binding and final; confidentiality of all judging is absolute.
11. Failure to conform to all rules will be cause for disqualification from the competition.
12. All entries must be sent to:

**Scott A. Travers**  
c/o Sal Germano  
SGRC Inc.  
625 Lafayette Ave.  
Hawthorne, NJ 07506

13. Each entry copy must have the following information attached or it will be disqualified:

- CLASS
- CATEGORY
- ENTRANT'S NAME & ADDRESS
- PUBLICATION
- PUBLICATION DATE
- TITLE OR HEADING
- AUTHOR (IF OTHER THAN ENTRANT)

.....

*The following classes and  
categories are in force in 2001.  
PLEASE EXAMINE YOUR  
ENTRIES CAREFULLY to be certain  
they qualify in the proper category!*

## **CLASS I BOOKS**

Books may be submitted by author, publisher or editor. Three copies must be submitted. Eligible are new books or those accepted by the judges at their sole discretion as substantially revised versions of earlier works.

### **1. BOOK OF THE YEAR**

*The work having the greatest  
potential impact on numismatics:  
Criteria include overall reader*

appeal, research quality, photographic, printing and graphic excellence, cover and typography where applicable. Books submitted in the specialized categories below may be considered for Book of the Year as well.

## **2. BEST SPECIALIZED BOOK ON**

- (a) United States Coins
- (b) World Coins
- (c) U.S. Paper Money
- (d) World Paper Money
- (e) Tokens & Medals
- (f) Numismatic Investments
- (g) Museum & Exhibition Catalogs

## **CLASS II-A U.S. COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES** *(Coins, COINage magazines and similar periodicals)*

### **3. BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES** (3) copies of articles dealing with:

- (a) Coins
- (b) Tokens & Medals
- (c) Paper Money

### **4. BEST COLUMN** (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column must be submitted.

### **5. BEST ISSUE** (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher, editors. Criteria include over- all numismatic appeal, fea- tures, departments, graphics, journalistic and editorial excellence as applicable.

## **CLASS II-B WORLD COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES** *(World Coin News, The Celator, sim- ilar overseas publications)*

### **6. BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES** (3) copies of articles dealing with:

- (a) Coins
- (b) Tokens & Medals
- (c) Paper Money



7. **BEST COLUMN** (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column must be submitted.

8. **BEST ISSUE** (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher, editors. Same criteria as category 5 above.

**CLASS III**  
**NON-PROFIT OR CLUB**  
**NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES**

(*The Numismatist, TAMS Journal, The Shekel*, etc. NOTE: National publications will no longer be judged separately from regional, state and local publications.)

9. **BEST ARTICLE**  
(3) copies of articles dealing with any subject related to numismatics  
(*ONE Award*)
10. **BEST COLUMN** (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column must be submitted.
11. **BEST ISSUE** (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher and/or editor. Same criteria as category 5 above.

**CLASS IV**  
**NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS**

12. **BEST SPOT NEWS STORY** or continuing coverage of a developing story in numismatics.
13. **BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES** (3) copies of articles dealing with:  
(a) Coins  
(b) Tokens & Medals  
(c) Paper Money
14. **BEST COLUMN** (3) copies EACH of (3) selections from ongoing column must be submitted.
15. **BEST ISSUE** (3) copies of the issue submitted by publisher, editors. Same criteria as category 5 above.

**CLASS V**  
**NON NUMISMATIC**  
**NEWSPAPERS**

16. **THE MAURICE M. GOULD MEMORIAL AWARD**

Entries may be submitted by publisher, editor or columnist of any coin column appearing regularly in any non-numismatic newspaper of any size circulation.

**CLASS VI**  
**COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND**  
**INTERNET WEB SITES**

17. **BEST WEB SITE ARTICLE**

Submit three (3) printouts of an article appearing on a Web site dealing with any subject related to numismatics.

18. **BEST DEALER WEB SITE**

For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3) hard copies of the home page.

19. **BEST NON-COMMERCIAL WEB SITE**

This award will be presented for the best non-commercial numismatic site. For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3) hard copies of the home page.

20. **BEST TRADE PRESS WEB SITE**

This award will be presented for the best numismatic Web site produced by the coin hobby press. For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3) hard copies of the home page.

21. **BEST NON-NUMISMATIC PRESS WEB SITE**

This award will be presented for the best numismatic Web site produced by a non-numismatic news organization. Editorial content from members of the hobby press is

acceptable. For static sites, submit the URL. For sites that change, submit three (3) hard copies of the home page.

22. **SOFTWARE**

Best presentation of a new numismatic work, or new presentation of a previously published numismatic work, in CD-ROM, DVD, floppy disk or any other electronic format. Only one copy of the work need be submitted. Entry must be accompanied by written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required by NLG rules above.

**CLASS VII**  
**AUCTION CATALOGS**

23. Submit (3) copies of each catalog entered. Criteria include cover design, overall eye appeal, format, graphics and layout, in-depth research and quality of description. Entries may be submitted by auction firm, auctioneer or cataloger.
- (a) Coin and currency auction catalogs
- (b) Catalogs for auctions of books and exnumia

**CLASS VIII**  
**COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS**

24. **LEE MARTIN FOUNDER'S AWARD** for Best Investment Newsletter: Criteria include overall reader appeal, quality of research and writing, and graphics as applicable. Submit (3) copies EACH of (3) issues, total: 9 items.
25. **BEST DEALER-PUBLISHED** magazine or newspaper. Criteria include overall reader appeal, quality of research and writing, and graphics excellence. Submit (3) copies EACH of at least (3) different issues.

*Cont. on page 8*



### CLASS IX BEST ALL-AROUND PORTFOLIO

26. Collection of writings and/or photographs and related items demonstrating numismatic writing ability and versatility. **Organization and presentation will count as heavily as volume.** Only one copy of portfolio need be submitted; other copies of items included in portfolio may also be submitted in other relevant categories at entrant's option.

### CLASS X BEST WRITER IN NLG NEWSLETTER

27. *NLG Newsletter* editor alone selects winner. Criteria include writing skill and style, numismatic or organization support, content to inform the member-readers. No entries accepted, editor alone decides.

### CLASS XI AUDIO-VISUAL

28. **RADIO:** Best news story, feature report or continuing series involving numismatics. Entries must include standard size audio cassette of story or feature report or (3) selections from continuing series, accompanied by written statement citing date(s) of broadcast, call letters and location of radio station as well as information required in NLG rules listed above. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.
29. **AUDIO:** Best audio program involving numismatics, but non-broadcast. Includes audio tracks from numismatic slide shows, educational tapes, audio newsletters and other presentations. Entries must include standard size audio cassette, written statement cit-

ing date(s) of first use, plus information required in NLG rules above. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

30. **TELEVISION:** Best spot news story, feature report or continuing series involving numismatics. Entries must include standard size cassette recording of television broadcast or (3) selections from continuing series. Tape must be either half-inch VHS or 3/4-inch professional videocassette, and must be accompanied by written statement citing date(s) of broadcast, call letters and location of station. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

31. **VIDEO:** Best non-broadcast slide film, movie film or video tape presentation involving numismatics. Entry must include audio as well as visual materials, either written script or sound track of film, audio or video cassette used in presentation. Entry must be accompanied by written statement citing date(s) of first use, plus information required by NLG rules above. Interview segments no longer qualify for this category.

### 32. CLEMENT F. BAILEY MEMORIAL AWARD

First presented in the 1987 competition, this award was endowed by Jim Miller of Miller Magazines in memory of an especially beloved member of the numismatic writing community and NLG founder, Clement F. Bailey. This award recognizes excellence among new writers in numismatics, whose first published writings appeared during the previous year. **Nominees are supplied solely by numismatic publishers.**

### THE CLEMY AWARD

In a category of its own since 1968 is the Clemy Award. The highest honor of NLG is bestowed annually during the NLG Bash on an NLG member in recognition of writing skill, dedication to numismatics, sense of humor and dedication to the Numismatic Literary Guild. Nominations are submitted by members of the board to the previous year's winner, who makes the final choice.

### ROLL OF HONOR CLEMY AWARD WINNERS 1968-2000

1968	Clement F. Bailey
1969	Edward C. Rochette
1970	Lee Martin
1971	Margo Russell
1972	Virginia Culver
1973	Maurice M. Gould
1974	Eva B. Adams
1975	Ray Byrne
1976	Chester L. Krause
1977	Richard S. Yeoman
1978	Lee F. Hewitt
1979	Abe Kosoff
1980	Glenn Smedley
1981	Arlie Slabaugh
1982	Eric P. Newman
1983	Kenneth Bressett
1984	Donn Pearlman
1985	Walter Breen
1986	Ed Reiter
1987	David Alexander
1988	James L. Miller
1989	Q. David Bowers
1990	David L. Ganz
1991	Clifford Mishler
1992	R.W. Julian
1993	Russell Rulau
1994	Elvira Clain-Stefanelli
1995	Beth Deisher
1996	Col. Bill Murray
1997	Alan Herbert
1998	Burnett Anderson
1999	Thomas K. DeLorey
2000	Wendell Wolke



# NLG Members & Numismatic Writers!

Heritage announces a  
**\$5,000 Grand Prize**  
for the best article on  
**www.HeritageCoin.com**

Heritage Numismatic Auctions and Heritage Rare Coin Galleries are pleased to announce a major contest for numismatic writers, who submit articles to appear on America's #1 numismatic website: HeritageCoin.com.

**The most popular article will receive the \$5,000 Grand Prize.**

#### Rules & Instructions:

- The contest will run through the 2002 New York ANA, where the \$5,000 Grand Prize will be awarded.
- You may submit an unlimited number of articles electronically (by e-mail or on disk, including all illustrations; MS Word preferred).
- Articles selected will be posted on the Heritage website:  
<http://www.HeritageCoin.com>.
- Articles may be fresh or previously published (you must be able to grant Heritage permission to post your article); fresh articles selected for posting may be later published elsewhere at your option. Authors will receive no payment from Heritage other than entry in the contest.
- You must have permission to reproduce any illustrations, and they must also be submitted in electronic form.
- Articles may pertain to any numismatic-oriented topic. Research may be from primary or secondary sources.

*The most popular article will be determined by readership statistics and ratings by HeritageCoin.com members.*



Entries should be emailed to [Jim@HeritageCoin.com](mailto:Jim@HeritageCoin.com), or mailed on computer disk to the attention of James Halperin, c/o Heritage Plaza, 100 Highland Park Village, 2nd Floor, Dallas, Texas 75205



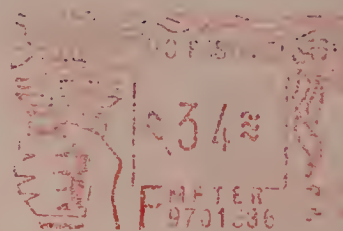
# NLG WRITERS' COMPETITION DEADLINE JUNE 23, 2001

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## NLG NEWSLETTER

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c/o PO Box 937  
Millbrook, NY 12545



TO: ☐

